

120 SOUTH RIVERSIDE PLAZA
CHICAGO, IL 60606
312-621-6200

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MAY 10 1982

WASTE MANAGEMENT BRANCH
EPA, REGION V

May 5, 1982

EPA Region 5 Records Ctr.



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G. TSO, PA

Mr. Richard Shandross
U. S. Environmental Protection
Agency
Region V
Waste Management Branch
111 W. Jackson Boulevard
Chicago, Illinois 60604

RE: GATC - EAST CHICAGO, INDIANA PLANT #2
USEPA ID. INDO74429895 *gms*
GROUNDWATER MONITORING

Dear Mr. Shandross:

In November of 1980, GATC initiated its groundwater monitoring program following the appropriate regulations outlined in 40 CFR Part 265. We had completed four (4) quarterly sampling efforts as of November, 1981.

The purpose of our correspondence today is threefold:

1. Provide you a copy of our summary report from the first year of monitoring as transmitted to Mr. Sheldon Simon of the Region V, USEPA, Toxic Substances Division. We have been working with Mr. Simon for the past year and a half in evaluating the groundwater at our East Chicago site.
2. Provide you notification of exceeding specific Interim Primary Drinking Water Standards. (See Appendix "B" in the above-mentioned report, both table and graphic representation.)
3. Relay to you our interpretation for groundwater monitoring sampling and reporting responsibilities and our schedule for future sampling and analysis (see attached letter from our consulting engineers, CH2M Hill).

I trust you will find the attached clear and informative. If you have any questions, feel free to contact me at 312/621-8452.

Very truly yours,

Richard E. Dahl, P.E.
Sr. Environmental Engineer
Environmental Affairs

RED:jaj/Att.

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TRANSPORTATION CORPORATION

120 SOUTH RIVERSIDE PLAZA
CHICAGO, IL 60606
312-621-6200

April 16, 1982

Mr. Sheldon Simon
U.S. Environmental Protection Agency
Region V
Toxic Substances Division
320 S. Dearborn Street
Chicago, Illinois 60604

SUBJECT: GATC - EAST CHICAGO PLANT #2, INDIANA
GROUNDWATER INVESTIGATION

Dear Mr. Simon:

Approximately one year ago, we reported to you, in an extensive report, our investigative efforts regarding soil and groundwater contamination levels at the above-mentioned site. Subsequent to this initial piece of work, GATC has sampled and analyzed its monitoring wells quarterly, utilizing as a guideline the RCRA Standards for Groundwater Monitoring - 40 CFR, Part 265, Subpart F.

The attached appendices are a compilation of the groundwater data gathered to date and are arranged according to the following:

Appendix A: Site Plan locating monitoring wells.

Appendix B: Analytical results for four (4) sampling periods both in table and graphic form.

Appendix C: Groundwater Contour.

Appendix D: Canal Sampling Points:
Location.

Appendix E: Analysis of Canal Samples.

Discussion of Results: Monitoring Wells

General Observations: In reviewing the graphical presentation of data, the following parameters appear to have the greatest contribution from background sources:

{ Lead
Mercury
Iron
Sulfates

Mr. Sheldon Simon

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Of these parameters, Iron and Mercury seem to appear to be persistent background problems.

The following parameters appear to have significant contribution both from background sources and on-site ponds:

{ Arsenic
Selenium
Turbidity
Chromium
Manganese

Arsenic and Manganese continue to persist, while the remainder have improved significantly. A possible contribution of Arsenic and Selenium contamination is slag which has been used for fill material throughout the site. Arsenic and Selenium, on occasion, are part of slag. Wells 2, 3 and 5 are located in an area just recently purchased by GATC. In the past, huge slag piles were stored here by the previous owner.

The remaining parameters appear to have the most significant contribution from on-site ponds:

{ Chlorides
Phenols
Cyanide
Conductivity
TOC
TOX

Phenols have greatly improved, while good improvement is indicated for Conductivity, TOC and TOX. Cyanide, however, only shows a trend toward a slight improvement.

Since GATC began restricting the handling of hazardous wastes on November 1, 1980, new contributions to the groundwater of Phenols, Cyanide and toxic heavy metals have ceased. Consequently, it can be seen from the results that those parameters which the on-site ponds appear to contribute the most significant concentrations, have made a good improvement.